

CLAIMS

1. Compositions in the form of an aqueous bioadhesive gel for the delivery of active ingredients and/or principles, comprising
5 hydroxyethylcellulose as the only gelling and bioadhesive agent.
2. Compositions in the form of an aqueous gel, as claimed in claim 1, for the intravaginal delivery of active ingredients and/or principles.
3. Compositions ~~as claimed~~ in claim 1 or 2, further containing glycerol, diethylene glycol monoethyl ether, surfactants, preservatives and acidifiers.
- 10 4. Compositions as claimed in claim 3, containing 1 to 5% by weight of hydroxyethylcellulose, 25 to 90% by weight of water, 5 to 25% by weight of glycerol, 5 to 50% by weight of diethylene glycol monoethyl ether, 0.01 to 10% by weight of surfactants, 0.05 to 1% by weight of preservatives, and 0.01 to 1% by weight of acidifiers.
- 15 5. Compositions as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, containing as active constituents antifungals, antiseptics and antimicrobials, antibiotics, analgesics, local anaesthetics, antihistamines, anti-inflammatory agents, contraceptives, hormones, or combinations thereof.
- 20 6. Compositions as claimed in claim 5, wherein the active ingredient is selected from econazole, miconazole, fluconazole, cyclopiroxolamine, nifuratel, nystatin, chlorhexidine, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, naproxen, benzydamine, benzalkonium chloride or other quaternary ammonium antiseptics, and nonoxynol-9.